

CLAIMS

5 1. An exterior rear view mirror for a vehicle comprising a base for mounting on a vehicle body, a housing pivotally mounted on the base for angular movement about a first pivot axis, a reflective member mounted in the housing, an electric motor having an output shaft arrange to cause angular movement of the housing about the first pivot axis, and a controller adapted to control the electric motor so as to selectively drive the housing about 10 the first axis either at a first speed or at a second speed which is faster than the first speed.

15 2. An exterior rear view mirror according to claim 1, wherein the controller includes measuring means for determining the angle through which the housing has been moved.

20 3. An exterior rear view mirror according to claim 2, wherein the measuring means comprises a counter for counting the number of revolutions of the output shaft of the motor.

25 4. An exterior rear view mirror according to claim 3, wherein the second speed is at least five times as fast as the first speed.

30 5. An exterior rear view mirror according to claim 4, wherein the second speed is at least ten times as fast as the first speed.

35 6. An exterior rear view mirror according to claim 1, wherein the second speed is at least five times as fast as the first speed.

7. An exterior rear view mirror according to claim 6, wherein the second speed is at least ten times as fast as the first speed.

8. An exterior rear view mirror according to claim 1, wherein the reflective member is pivotally mounted in the housing for angular movement relative thereto about a second pivot axis and a second electric motor has an output shaft arranged to adjust the reflective member in altitude relative to the housing and the controller is adapted to

control the second electric motor.

9. An exterior rear view mirror according to claim 8, wherein the controller includes measuring means for determining the angle through which the reflective member has been moved.

10. An exterior rear view mirror according to claim 9, wherein the measuring means comprises a second counter for counting the number of revolutions of the output shaft of the second motor.

11. An exterior rear view mirror according to claim 9, wherein the reflective member has a first reflective surface having a first reflectivity and a second reflective surface having a second reflectivity greater than the reflectivity of the first reflective surface and disposed at a predetermined angle to the first surface, and the controller is arranged to determine when the reflective member has been tilted through an angle equal to said predetermined angle.

12. An exterior rear view mirror according to claim 11, wherein the controller includes first and second light sensors response respectively to ambient light and to light incident on the reflective member and arranged to tilt reflective member through an angle equal to said predetermined angle when the difference in the light levels sensed by the two sensors exceeds a predetermined amount.

13. An exterior rear view mirror according to claim 8, wherein the controller is linked to a vehicle gear selector so as to tilt the reflective member downwardly when reverse gear is engaged and the controller is arranged to sense the angle through which the reflective member has been tilted from its deployed position and to drive the reflective member back through this angle when reverse gear is deselected.

14. An exterior rear view mirror according to claim 9, wherein the controller is linked to a vehicle gear selector so as to tilt the reflective member downwardly when reverse gear is engaged and the controller is arranged to sense the

angle through which the reflective member has been tilted from its deployed position and to drive the reflective member back through this angle when reverse gear is deselected.

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